



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604**

**SUBJECT:** CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT  
Aevitas Specialty Services Corp., Detroit, Michigan

**FROM:** Natalie Schulz, Environmental Engineer  
AECAB (MN/OH)

**THRU:** Brian Dickens, Section Supervisor  
AECAB (MN/OH)

**TO:** File

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**BASIC INFORMATION**

**Facility Name:** Aevitas Specialty Services Corp.

**Facility Location:** 663 Lycaste Street, Detroit, Michigan 48214

**Date of Inspection:** August 17, 2022

**EPA Inspector(s):**

1. Natalie Schulz, Environmental Engineer
2. Brianna Fenzl, Environmental Engineer

**Other Attendees:**

1. Steve Weis, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)
2. Robert Slater, Chief Executive Officer, Aevitas Specialty Services Corp.
3. Cynthia Ross, Compliance and Risk Manager, Aevitas Specialty Services Corp.

**Contact Email Address:** cross@aevitas.us.com

**Purpose of Inspection:** Tanks and scrubber inspection

**Facility Type:** Oily waste and wastewater recycling

**Regulations Central to Inspection:** Material limits and scrubber and tank requirements in the facility's Permit to Install

**Arrival Time:** 12:45 p.m.

**Departure Time:** 2:05 p.m.

**Inspection Type:**

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

**OPENING CONFERENCE**

- ☒ Presented Credentials
- ☒ Stated authority and purpose of inspection
- ☒ Provided Small Business Resource Information Sheet
- ☒ Provided CBI warning to facility

The following information was obtained verbally from Robert Slater and Cynthia Ross unless otherwise noted.

**Process Description:**

The facility treats oily waste from industrial customers and reclaims the base oil to sell. Prior to acceptance at the facility, oily waste material is sampled and tested in an internal lab for PCBs, heavy metals, and more. The test results are logged; the permit requires that the facility limit the material processed at the facility based on the oil content of the waste material. The material processing records were requested for later review.

Oil is separated from the water in a separation process done on a batch basis. The pH is adjusted with sulfuric acid or potassium hydroxide, and steam is applied. Depending on the oily waste, the separation process can take minutes or several days. The separated water can be additionally treated with polymers, ferric chloride, and alum. Treated water is discharged to the city sewer. The oil is then sent to drying tanks, which are heated tanks where blowers percolate air to remove moisture, before it is sent through a filter press. After the filter press, it goes to a final tank for storage as the finished product. A scrubber is connected to the wastewater and oil treatment tanks (called the “process tanks”). The facility checks and logs the Scrubber liquid flow rate and redox potential daily, as required by the permit. The scrubber records were requested for later review.

Some of the oil will be sent to a third-party cement kiln for destruction; this is oil that was heavily emulsified and did not separate completely from water. The oil is transferred from the facility to a third-party approximately once or twice per week.

**Staff Interview:**

Some oily waste material is not accepted at the facility because it does not lend itself to resale. No hazardous materials are accepted. All tanks on-site are fixed roof tanks. The oil treatment tanks are heated to 150° F with a natural gas boiler; there is no temperature limit in the permit. The permit requires the facility record the maximum temperature of the tanks during treatment on a batch basis; the temperature records were requested for later review.

The facility is adding a “polishing” scrubber to the process. The scrubber has long sat idle at the facility and will work in series with the existing scrubber. Stack testing has never been completed at the facility.

### **TOUR INFORMATION**

**EPA Tour of the Facility:** Yes

**Data Collected and Observations:**

The inspectors observed the facility’s tanks and scrubber with the FLIR optical gas imaging camera; no leaks were observed.

**Photos and/or Videos:** were not taken during the inspection.

**Field Measurements:** were not taken during this inspection.

### **CLOSING CONFERENCE**

☒ Provided U.S. EPA point of contact to the facility

**Requested documents:**

- Scrubber pH and redox potential records for the past three months
- A timeline of significant scrubber maintenance for the past three years
- Facility map
- Material processing records for the past three months
- Temperature records of process tanks for the past three months
- Odor Management Plan

### **DIGITAL SIGNATURES**

Report Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Section Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_